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POCAHONTAS COUNTY

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Chapter 5 Pioneer Industry

MILLS ----- BLACKSMITHS ----- TANNERS

The first mill ever built on Stony Creek was a small tub mill built by Henry Duncan in 1824. He served his apprenticeship in Virginia and came to Pocahontas as one of our first carpenters. He helped build the old Court House at Huntersville, the old brick Oak Grove Church and old Hamline Chapel log church. His tub mill was at the head of the Big Spring. He leased this land for a period of eight years and built thereon a mill. It ground corn and buckwheat. It is believed that he discontinued the mill at the end of his lease and that John Duffield built his mill about seventeen years later.

Court records show that John Duffield bought land on Stony Creek in 1839. No doubt he built the mill a short time after coming into possession of the land. This tract of land consisting of 380 acres was a part of 22,000 acres originally patented to Henry Philips assee of James Patent and was sold on August 6, 1839 by Jacob H. Arbogast, Commissioner of Delinquent Lands. John Duffield was the highest bidder.

This mill was an old log building. It ground both corn and wheat. It was run by an overshot, wooden water wheel.

On January 31, 1878 Jacob Waugh bought of John Duffield 78.75 acres on which was built a mill for the sum of \$600. And on February 20, 1895 the heirs of Jacob Waugh sold the "Duffield Mill Property" to Samuel D. Waugh for \$1800. On February 28, 1899 Samuel D. Waugh sold the property to Godfrey Geiger for \$1800.

*Bank Book
No. 13
26*